

App. No.: 10/801,443  
Art Unit: 1624

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
JAN 25 2007

### **REMARKS**

Applicants have received and reviewed an Office Action dated July 25, 2006 and the Advisory Action dated December 8, 2006. In response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 3, and 5 and canceled without prejudice claims 9-10, 34-35, and 41-42. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 3-8, 11-28, 31-33, and 36-40 are pending. Applicants submit that the pending claims are supported by the specification and original claims.

Claim 5 was amended to correct the spelling of one word.

For the reasons given below, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

### **The Present Amendment Places the Claims in Condition for Allowance**

The final Office Action indicated that claims 34 and 35 were objected to but would be allowable if presented in independent form. The recitation of claim 34 has been added to independent claim 1. The recitation of claim 35 has been added to independent claim 1. Accordingly, the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested.

Claims 34 and 35 ultimately depended from claims 1 and 3, respectively. Claims 9, 10, 41, and 42, which came between claims 1 and 3 and 34 and 35, have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 34 and 35 have been canceled without prejudice.

### **Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First and Second Paragraphs**

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-28, 31-33, and 36-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. The Office Action objects to certain terms and phrases employed in the claims. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Office Action objects to the term "suitable" in claims 1, 3, 34, 35, 41, and 42. The claims no longer include this term.

Claims 34, 35, 41, and 42 have been canceled, which renders this rejection moot for these claims. The word suitable has been removed from claims 1 and 3.

Accordingly, the amended claims fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

App. No.: 10/801,443  
Art Unit: 1624

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 25 2007

**Claim Objections**

The Examiner objected to claims 41 and 42 (which depend from claims 9 and 10, respectively) for reciting acylating agents not found in claims 9 and 10. Claims 9, 10, 41 and 42 have been canceled which renders this objection moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

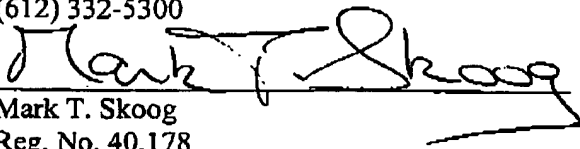
**Conclusion**

In summary, Applicants submit that each of claims 1, 3-8, 11-28, 31-33, and 36-40 is in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below, if the Examiner believes that doing so will expedite prosecution of this patent.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: January 25, 2007

  
Mark T. Skoog  
Reg. No. 40,178